



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, July 2006

Environmental Cleanup Planned for Mare Island's Indoor PCB Sites

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is distributing this fact sheet to inform the community about the draft Interim Removal Action Work Plan (Work Plan) being proposed for indoor polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) sites located within buildings throughout the Eastern Early Transfer Parcel (EETP). The draft Work Plan being submitted by Lennar Mare Island covers PCB sites within buildings that are currently being leased or will be redeveloped and reused. This fact sheet provides the public and community the opportunity to comment on the draft Work Plan.

The draft Work Plan addresses proposed cleanup actions at 194 PCB sites located inside buildings within the EETP. The draft Work Plan provides tables summarizing the previous sampling and cleanup actions at the PCB sites, figures showing the site locations, the status of each PCB site, and the process for completing the necessary cleanup actions to obtain DTSC's approval. This draft Work Plan ensures that the remaining work at the PCB sites will meet regulatory standards and that proper documentation exists for the cleanup of the EETP Investigation Areas (IA), B, C1, C2 and C3. A draft Remedial Action Plan will be submitted for public review and will specify whether further actions are required at the PCB sites in the IAs. (Please see Next Steps pg.2).

Public Comment Period

We encourage the public to review and comment on the draft Work Plan and the proposed CEQA Notice of Exemption. DTSC announces a 30-day public comment period on the draft Work Plan and the proposed CEQA Notice of Exemption beginning on July 5, 2006 and ending on August 3, 2006. We will consider and respond to all public comments before making a final decision on the proposed draft Work Plan for indoor PCB sites.

DTSC may hold a public meeting for this project if there is significant public interest or a meeting is requested. Please submit your request to Mr. Richard Perry at 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710 or via email to rperry@dtsc.ca.gov. If a meeting is held, a notice will be posted in all local papers and at the JFK Library in Vallejo.

Please mail written comments to Mr. Henry Chui, DTSC Project Manager, 700 Heinz Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to hchui@dtsc.ca.gov. All mailed and e-mailed comments must be received by DTSC no later than 5 P.M. on August 3, 2006.



What are PCBs?

PCBs are a group of synthetic organic chemicals that were manufactured in the United States from 1929 to 1977. PCBs were commonly used in electrical equipment because of their ideal physical-chemical properties (chemical stability, low electrical conductivity, high thermal conductivity, high boiling point, and flame-retardant properties). In 1978, PCB production was banned in the U.S. because evidence showed that PCBs accumulate in the environment and may cause harmful health effects. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concluded that PCBs are probable human carcinogens.

Summary of Investigations Related to PCB Sites

From 1996 through 2000, the Navy identified and cleaned up sites with PCB concentrations greater than 1 part per million.

In 2002, the Navy transferred the 650-acre EETP to the City of Vallejo, which then transferred it to Lennar Mare Island, LLC (LMI) for cleanup and redevelopment. With DTSC providing oversight, LMI is working with CH2M HILL, an environmental engineering and construction firm, to complete the environmental cleanup of the EETP for future residential, educational, commercial/industrial, and recreational land uses.

Since the property transfer in 2002, regulatory closure has been obtained for a majority of the PCB sites (390 out of 570 of the identified PCB sites). These sites represent a combination of those that were cleaned up by the Navy prior to transfer, and those investigated and/or cleaned up by CH2M HILL following transfer. The draft Work Plan for the indoor PCB sites ensures that the remaining PCB-impacted sites will continue to be cleaned up to protect human health and the environment.

What will I see during the PCB cleanup activities?

PCB contaminated material being removed will most likely include soil, concrete, debris,

and other site equipment. Most cleanup activities will occur inside buildings. However, some activities such as stockpiling of materials (concrete, wood, asphalt and soil), movement of materials with heavy equipment, movement of trucks taking the materials off the island, etc. will be noticeable outside of the buildings.

Public utility personnel may be seen on the site surveying for utility lines as part of the Underground Service Alert program, and site cleanup personnel will be using standard construction machinery and wearing safety gear. All excavated materials will be moved to temporary stockpiles and covered. Excavated materials will be hauled away and disposed of at a facility approved by DTSC. Excavated areas will be backfilled with clean soil approved by DTSC.

Water will be used as needed to minimize dust, and real-time dust monitors will be placed in two locations at each site. All work will be performed in accordance with a site-specific health and safety plan that complies with both state and federal regulations designed to protect the health and safety of on-site workers and the public.

Following cleanup activities, indoor air samples may be collected and analyzed for PCBs to verify that PCB contamination is not present in indoor air.

Next Steps

A draft Remedial Action Plan will specify whether further actions are required at each PCB site within the IAs. This process will ultimately lead to one of the following decisions, based on existing PCB concentrations (or remaining concentrations following a cleanup action):

1. No further action is required;
2. No further physical cleanup is necessary, but a deed restriction or land use covenant is required; and
3. Further cleanup is necessary, in order to obtain a No Further Action determination for the sites.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

In compliance with CEQA, DTSC has reviewed the proposed environmental cleanup plan outlined in the Work Plan for indoor PCB sites. DTSC has subsequently determined that the proposed cleanup work will not have a significant impact on the environment.

DTSC also proposes to file a Notice of Exemption under CEQA. The draft notice is available for review in the public repository. A final notice will be available after the Work Plan for indoor PCB sites and the draft notice has been reviewed and approved by the public.

Mare Island Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

Mare Island has a RAB made up of interested community members and regulatory representatives. The RAB usually meets on the last Thursday of the month.

Information about the RAB can be found on the Web at:
<http://www.efds.w.navy.mil/environmental/mareisland/htm>

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

TDD users can use the California Relay Service at 888/877-5378; ask to speak to Mr. Richard Perry 510/540-3910.

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de esta información, favor de llamar a Especialista en Participación Pública de el Departamento de Control de Sustancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es 510/540-3842.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

JFK Library
505 Santa Clara Street
Vallejo, California 94590
707/553-5568 Reference Desk

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
510/540-3759
Call for an appointment

You can view the draft Work Plan and subsequent documents online at DTSC's website www.dtsc.ca.gov or directly at <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>

For More Information

If you would like more information or have questions regarding the draft Work Plan and the CEQA Notice of Exemption, contact:

Mr. Henry Chui
Project Manager, DTSC
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
510/540-3759 or hchui@dtsc.ca.gov

For questions about the public participation process, please contact:

Mr. Richard Perry
Public Participation Specialist, DTSC
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
510/540-3910 or rperry@dtsc.ca.gov or

Ms. Michelle Trotter
Public Participation Specialist, DTSC
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95821
916/255-6441 or mtrotter@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact:

Ms. Angela Blanchette
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510/540-3732 or ablanch@dtsc.ca.gov

